

Table 14. Number and percent distribution of ambulatory care visits by medication therapy and number of medications prescribed or provided, according to ambulatory care setting: United States, 1996

Medication therapy	Combined settings	Physician offices	Outpatient departments	Emergency departments
Number of visits in thousands				
All visits	892,025	734,493	67,186	90,347
Medication therapy provided or prescribed				
Yes	576,129	469,134	40,714	66,281
No	315,897	265,359	26,472	24,066
Number of medications provided or prescribed				
None	315,897	265,359	26,472	24,066
1	251,907	208,128	16,124	27,654
2	162,927	134,182	9,118	19,627
3	75,088	59,599	5,858	9,630
4	38,007	29,903	3,742	4,362
5	19,597	15,118	2,220	2,258
6	28,603	22,205	3,651	2,748
Percent distribution				
All visits	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Medication therapy provided or prescribed				
Yes	64.6	63.9	60.6	73.4
No	35.4	36.1	39.4	26.6
Number of medications provided or prescribed				
None	35.4	36.1	39.4	26.6
1	28.2	28.3	24.0	30.6
2	18.3	18.3	13.6	21.7
3	8.4	8.1	8.7	10.7
4	4.3	4.1	5.6	4.8
5	2.2	2.1	3.3	2.5
6	3.2	3.0	5.4	3.0

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.

Table 15. Number of drug visits, drug mentions, and drug utilization rate by ambulatory care setting: United States, 1996

Ambulatory care setting	All visits	Drug visits ¹	Drug mentions	Drug utilization rate ²
Number in thousands				Number of drug mentions per visit
Combined settings	892,025	576,129	1,224,656	1.4
Physician offices	734,493	469,134	983,718	1.3
Outpatient departments	67,186	40,714	99,910	1.5
Emergency departments	90,347	66,281	141,028	1.6

¹Visits at which one or more drugs were provided or prescribed.²Number of drug mentions divided by number of visits.

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals because of rounding.